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Identical letters dated 23 December 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the daily report for 23 December 2002 on the activities of the inspection teams of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Iraq (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed **Salman**
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Annex to the identical letters dated 23 December 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Activities of the IAEA and UNMOVIC inspection teams in Iraq

Inspection activities on 23 December 2002

I. IAEA inspection team

A team consisting of six inspectors left the Canal Hotel at 1205 hours and arrived at the site of the Al-Razi Company, an enterprise of the Military Industrialization Corporation (MIC) some 10 kilometres north of Baghdad. The team met with the general manager and specialists and asked about the enterprise and its ownership and organizational structure and for the name of the research centre and the names of its clients. It made a tour of inspection that included the commercial division, and it examined documents relating to that division. It inspected the computers and the company's research centre and checked the tags and seals on the equipment. The team completed its assignment at 1520 hours and proceeded to the nearby Ibn al-Baytar Centre, a pharmaceutical research centre of the Ministry of Industry and Mining some 10 kilometres north of Baghdad. The regular working day was over, so the team made a tour of inspection of the main building and conducted a radiometric survey of all roads and pathways using hand-held instruments so as to detect any radioactivity there might be. It completed its mission at 1550 hours and arrived back at the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 1910 hours.

II. UNMOVIC biological inspection team

A team consisting of nine inspectors left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 0835 hours and arrived at the infant formula plant in Abu Ghraib, some 15 kilometres west of Baghdad, at 0915 hours. The plant had been bombed and destroyed during the 1991 30-nation aggression and was rebuilt during the period of reconstruction. It was one of the sites visited on a number of occasions by the former Special Commission. On arrival, the team met with the manager and asked him a number of questions about the plant, its ownership and the reasons production had stopped. Its questions were answered. The team made a tour of inspection of all the facilities and buildings at the plant and checked the tagged equipment. It completed its assignment at 1105 hours and arrived back at the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 1145 hours.

III. UNMOVIC chemical inspection team

A team consisting of 10 inspectors left the Canal Hotel at 0835 hours. At 0905 hours it arrived at the Ibn al-Baytar Centre, which had also been visited by an UNMOVIC inspection team a few days earlier. On arrival, the team met with the director of the centre and asked about the items produced and any changes there had been since 1998. The team leader requested a list of products, and the team inspected the buildings and laboratories and verified the semi-annual declarations

submitted by Iraq on 7 December 2002. The team completed its assignment at 1155 hours and arrived back at the Canal Hotel at 1220 hours.

IV. UNMOVIC multidisciplinary (chemical, biological and missile) inspection team

A team consisting of 11 inspectors left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 0835 hours. At 0910 hours it arrived at the Faw State Enterprise, an MIC general engineering company located in the Sab' Abkar area of Baghdad that builds bridges, paves roads and does construction. An UNMOVIC chemical inspection team had also visited the site two days before. On arrival, the team met with the general manager and asked him about the company's organizational structure and its projects. It saw an exhibition of pictures at the site documenting the projects executed by the company and its role in the period of reconstruction. The team took photographs of some of the exhibits. It then inspected the company's various divisions, workshops and offices. The team completed its assignment at 1210 hours and arrived back at the Canal Hotel at 1227 hours.

V. UNMOVIC missile inspection team

A team consisting of seven inspectors left the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 1040 hours. At 1120 hours it arrived at the site of the technical missile battalion in the Taji area, some 40 kilometres north of Baghdad, which had been visited by a group from the missile inspection team on 22 December. The team placed seals on items of equipment subject to ongoing monitoring. It completed its assignment at 1540 hours and arrived back at the Canal Hotel at 1640 hours.

Remarks

IAEA and UNMOVIC inspection teams carried out surprise inspections at six sites in Baghdad and elsewhere with 42 inspectors taking part. The inspectors interviewed the officials in charge of the sites, and the latter answered the questions asked. The inspectors also conducted radiometric surveys of sites and equipment using hand-held instruments, and they photographed the equipment and machinery subject to monitoring at the sites they visited.